

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DHA-02

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9791

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, AO, SF

SUBJ: ANGOLA IN APARTHEID COMMITTEE

REF: USUN 3959

1. AN ANGOLAN SPOKESMAN'S APPEARANCE AT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID'S OCTOBER 11 SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE WHOLE IN OBSERVANCE OF THE DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS WOULD HAVE BEEN UNEXCEPTIONABLE EXCEPT THAT WE WERE TOLD THAT (A) ANGOLA WAS PUT ON THE SPEAKERS LIST WITHOUT THE CHAIRMAN'S HAVING GONE THROUGH THE FORMALITY OF ASKING IF THERE WERE ANY OBJECTION TO ANGOLA'S REQUEST TO SPEAK, AND (B) AN "ANGOLA" NAMEPLATE WOULD BE PUT UP IN THE COMMITTEE CHAMBER THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE MEETINGS.

2. SINCE THE U.S. IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE, WE COULD NOT HAVE RAISED A QUESTION WITH THE APARTHEID COMMITTEE'S BUREAU OR FROM THE FLOOR. WE THUS ASKED GENERAL LEGAL DIVISION DIRECTOR SLOAN TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. HE LATER SAID HE REMINDED REDDY, THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY, THAT A REQUEST BY THE CHAIR ADDRESSED TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP IS A PREREQUISITE TO A STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF A NON-MEMBER STATE. REDDY UNDERTOOK SO TO REMIND THE CHAIRMAN (AMB. HARRIMAN OF NIGERIA) BUT
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OBSERVED THAT THE COMMITTEE HEARS LARGE NUMBERS OF GOVERN-

MENTAL AND NGO SPOKESMEN WITH LITTLE FORMALITY, INDEED, ANYONE OR BODY SYMPATHETIC TO AND ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO ANTI-APARTHEID EFFORTS. AS TO THE SIGN, REDDY UNDERTOOK TO SLOAN TO TRY TO PLACE THE "ANGOLA" SIGN AT THE DESK FROM WHICH THE ANGOLAN SPOKESMAN WOULD BE SPEAKING ONLY AT THE TIME OF HIS STATEMENT.

3. IN ANY EVENT, ANGOLA REP EVENTUALLY CHOSE, FOR UNKNOWN REASONS, NOT TO APPEAR OR SPEAK. ACCORDINGLY, ISSUES OF SPEAKING AND NAME SIGN DID NOT ARISE.
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